

REMARKS

Attorney for applicants has carefully reviewed the outstanding Office Action on the present application. Applicants have canceled Claims 49-60 and 62.

Applicants' attorney is pleased to note that, at page 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 61-70 are allowed. The Office Action fails to specify the disposition of Claims 71-75, which was previously presented in applicants' Amendment of August 23, 2007. As a result, applicants' attorney initiated a telephonic interview with Examiner Vijayakumar on May 14, 2008. The Examiner indicated that because Claims 71-75 depend from allowed independent Claim 61, Claims 71-75 will be allowed. Also, applicants' attorney informed the Examiner that allowed Claim 62 depends from an independent claim (i.e., Claim 54) that has been rejected on prior art grounds.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 49-60 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over International patent publication No. WO 01/87503 to Kydd et al. in view of International patent publication No. WO 98/37133 to Kydd et al. or U.S. Patent No. 6,379,745 to Kydd et al. Also, Claims 49-60 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent publication No. 2003/0211246 to Kydd et al. in view of International patent publication No. WO 98/37133 to Kydd et al. or U.S. Patent No. 6,379,745 to Kydd et al. These rejections have been obviated by the cancellation herein of Claims 49-60.

Claims 49-60 and 62 have been canceled to expedite issuance of a patent. Applicants make no admissions concerning the propriety of the rejections and

respectfully disagrees with same. Applicants reserve the right to file continuation or divisional applications to protect the inventions of the canceled claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants' attorney respectfully requests allowance of the present application. If such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is cordially invited to place a telephone call to applicants' attorney in order that any outstanding issue may be resolved without the issuance of a further Office Action.

A fee in the amount of \$525.00 for a three-month Extension Petition is believed to be due. The Petition authorizes the Examiner to charge this \$525 fee to Deposit Account No. 503571. No additional fees are believed to be due as a result of the submittal of this Amendment. If any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully submitted,



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